

Minutes of the Kingston Field Naturalists General Meeting

November 17, 2016

1. Opening Remarks:

Alexandra welcomed everybody to the November meeting. She reviewed the posted agenda. There were no additional items

2. Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting held October 20, 2016:

The minutes are posted on the KFN website. Janis asked for any corrections or additions. There were none.

Motion

Moved by Erwin Batalla, seconded by Janet Elliott that the minutes be accepted.

Carried

3. Members's Observations:

-Ken Robinson reported that a female King Eider has been at the Millhaven ferry dock for over a week and was seen there by the North Leeds Birders on November 16. Erwin Batalla saw a Horned Grebe at Lands End Park, Amherst Island, during the same field trip.

-Mike Evans saw a flock of Rusty Blackbirds at Bell Swamp a month ago.

-Erwin Batalla saw a Cabbage White Butterfly at Taylor Kidd and Bay Ridge Ave. today.

-Kurt Hennige saw a Clouded Sulphur on Monday.

- Carol Seymour saw a Common Green Darner Dragonfly in November

- Peter Good saw a Sulphur Butterfly today.

- Janet Elliott saw a Cabbage White at Little Cataraqui Conservation Area on Tuesday, November 16 during the Ramble.

-Anne Robertson and Rose- Marie Burke reported observing a Fall Meadowhawk, hearing a Spring Peeper, seeing 5 Red Wing Blackbirds, 1 Grackle, and a Swamp Sparrow during the Ramble at Little Cataraqui Conservation Area.

- Claire Muller reported that there were more Purple Martins than ever before on Wolfe Island this summer. She has also seen more bears north of North Bay than usual.

4. Announcements:

a) Alexandra thanked Betsy Beckwith for providing treats for this evenings meeting.

b) Alexandra thanked Kurt for hosting our speaker, David Bree.

c) She highlighted a number of events that are listed in detail in the Newsletter.

d) The Trenton Woodlot Conference takes place November 25 in Batawa.

5. Notice of Motion Concerning KFN Financial Matters:

The executive of the Kingston Field Naturalists, on the recommendation of a subcommittee, introduced the following motion to the membership:

That the Kingston Field Naturalists transfer \$50,000, including the \$28,000 from the Marion Webb Fund, to the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area as an Agency Endowment Fund in return for an income stream in perpetuity.

Treasurer, Larry McCurdy, addressed the meeting and explained that KFN currently has \$118,000 invested in short term bonds and GIC's managed by CBIC Wood Gundy.

Interest averages approximately 2%. Of this, \$66,000 is restricted in that it was donated for specific purposes or only the interest may be used (this interest helps maintain KFN's 2 nature reserves by partially covering taxes, maintenance and monitoring.)

The Community Foundation of Kingston & Area is a charity which supports other charities and has a current endowment of \$17 million. KFN is proposing that \$50,000 of \$118,000 be given to the Community Foundation in exchange for a greater investment return. They guarantee a return of 2.5%. Last year the return was 4.6% and the previous year 5.7% due to their skilled investment strategy and large endowment. During Q & A we learned that the management fee is 1.5 % on the gross investment, funds cannot be returned at a later date, our grant will be based on a 3 year average of returns with a cushion held back in case of a stock market crash.

The vote on this motion will be held at the December meeting. Larry can be reached by email at larrymcc@kingston.net for further information.

6. **Featured Speaker:**

Kurt Hennige introduced speaker David Bree, Park Naturalist, Presqu'ile Provincial Park who gave an interesting talk on:

The 8th Continent – Madagascar

Mr. Bree was thanked by Erwin Batalla who presented him with a revised 2nd edition of *Birds of the Kingston Region*. Erwin pointed out that Mr. Bree has listed 85% of the world's bird families.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm. There were 68 people in attendance.